

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /060 W

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P R 101918Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7099

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: DIADA DE CATALUNA

REF: MADRID 6877

1. AFTER LONG, DRAWN-OUT TALKS, THE CIVIL GOVERNOR OF BARCELONA, SANCHEZ TERAN, AUTHORIZED THE "DIDA DE CATALUNA" (THE DAY OF CATALUNA) FOR SATURDAY, THE 11TH, BUT IN A SETTLEMENT 12 KILOMETERS AWAY FROM BARCELONA. INTERESTINGLY, THE INTERVIEWS OF OUR COUNSUL GENERAL IN BARCELONA WITH CATALAN POLITICAL LEADERS YESTERDAY PRODUCED GLOOM AT THE PROSPECTS FOR

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AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD THIS RALLY AND CONCERN THAT THERE WOULD BE A

CONFRONTATION BETWEEN DEMONSTRATORS AND POLICE. TODAY, SOURCES FROM THESE SAME SECTORS TOLD OUR CONSUL GENERAL THAT THEY WERE QUITE RELIEVED AND PLEASED THAT THE GOS HAD AUTHORIZED THE RALLY. THEY INDICATED THAT ALMOST ALL OF THE POLITICAL GROUPS IN BARCELONA, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF SOME EXTREMISTS, HAD AGREED TO ENSURE A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION.

2. IN STIPULATING THAT THE DEMONSTRATION BE HELD A GOODLY DISTANCE FROM BARCELONA, THE GOS SOUGHT TO ENSURE THAT THE NUMBERS WOULD BE MANAGABLE AND THAT ANY PUBLIC ORDER PROBLEMS, IF THEY SHOULD OCCUR, COULD BE EASILY CONTAINED.
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